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MEMORANDUM TO: Chairman Ad Hoc Committee on Intelligence Production

FROM :

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In answer to certain questions which arose at the last meeting the following information is furnished;

1. The earliest date on which ORE Working Papers were authorized for exterior distribution was 15 November 1948, under the provisions of ORE Operating Procedure No. 21 of the same date. However, working papers had been prepared by certain branches before this time and it appears that some informal exterior distribution had taken place, although the degree and nature of authorization for such distribution is unknown.

2. For the purposes of this committee, distribution is made between CIA services of common concern such as, the activities of OCD or OSO, and strictly ORE services of common concern. An ORE service of common concern will be interpreted ~~as one~~ as one on which ORE components or personnel expended effort that does not contribute entirely to ORE production.

a. National Intelligence Surveys

The Basic Intelligence Group of ORE is completely engaged in the coordination, editing, and ^{production} ~~provisions~~ of the National Intelligence Surveys, which, although of value to the productive effort of ORE is designed essentially for the benefit of the National Military Establishment as prescribed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

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b. Map Branch

The major part of the activities of the Map Branch ORK are concerned were in support of the NIS Program or in other types of Map support for agencies of the government external to CIA. Perhaps only 30 to 40% of the over-all efforts of the Map Branch could be construed as being directly contributory to ORK production.

c. Support to other Offices of CIA

A few months ago ORK undertook the coordination of a research project for OSO concerning certain cities of the Soviet Union. This project, although of a basic intelligence character, was of a type which could ^{not} be fulfilled by the NIS Program. OPC has approached ORK recently for assistance on a project in support of its operations.

d. Working Papers

Branch working papers of ORK can not actually be considered as services of common concern. Although these working papers, in most cases, are distributed externally and are of value to the other IAC agencies, ORK is under no obligation to prepare them for this purpose. It appears as if the preparation of working papers is useful to most of the ORK components in directing and recording their opinions. In effect, then, working papers are produced at least as much for the benefit of ORK and for the benefit of other agencies.

e. Review of NIS Chapters

A few of the branches of ORK, notably B/EK, B/NE, B/NO and G/TR are expending anywhere from 5 to 10% of their effort in the review of chapters of NIS.

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f. Economic Group

It appears that as much as 20% of the time of a group of key individuals in the C/Ec is being consumed in consultation with outside agencies or in membership on various outside committees which gave less or no return to the COM production effort.

g. Miscellaneous Activities

Intelligence support to the NSC-4 Program occupies the full time of 1 P-7 from COM. Certain geographical branches of COM have participated in supporting the NSC-4 Program but this activity has not consumed any major fraction of time.

(1) The External Research Program in which CIA and the State Department jointly participate occupies the full time of 1 P-7 from COM.

3. In summary, it is concluded that COM is relatively free from external commitments which misdirect or dissipate its productive capabilities. Notable exceptions are the Basic Intelligence Group and the Rep Branch, whose activities are prescribed by higher authorities.